

Historic
Astoria
Oregon



Astoria Columbia River Bridge

ASTORIA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
270 Fourteenth St. Astoria, Oregon

P. O. BOX 176 OR CALL 325-6311

IA MEETS THE VAST PACIFIC

What To Do

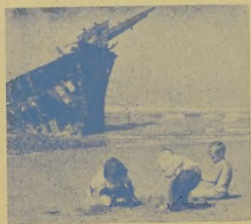
FORT ASTORIA—Established in 1811 by the members of John Jacob Astor's Pacific Fur Company, first permanent American outpost west of the Mississippi. Located in center of Astoria between 14th and 15th on Exchange street.



FISHERMEN'S DOCK—Astoria is famous for its waterfront, and here may be seen fishermen at work bringing in the king of all fish, the Royal Chinook salmon. Truly, we have the romance of the fisherman's wharf in Astoria.

FIRST POST OFFICE—John N. Shively, by presidential commission, established a post office in his Astoria home. This was March, 1847, and was the first U. S. mail office west of the Rockies, pre-dating San Francisco and Oregon City. (marked by monument)

WRECK OF THE PETER IREDALE—This was a British bark of 2075 tons which was stranded on Clatsop beach, Oct. 25, 1906. It was inbound into the Columbia and because of a heavy southeast wind and strong current, was forced into the breakers, and all efforts to keep her off were unavailing.



Located on the beach at Fort Stevens State Park, the Peter Iredale is one of the few shipwrecks that can still be seen. It is the most photographed attraction along the entire Oregon Coast.

ASTORIA MARITIME PARK—Located at foot of 17th Street. Provides moorage for U. S. Coast Guard Cutter Yocona and Maritime Museum's Lightship Columbia. Visitors may also view the changing of pilots on ocean going vessels passing close into the park. (this park being developed at the present time)

FORT CLATSOP was the winter headquarters in 1805 and 1806 of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the first U. S. military post west of St. Louis. Fort Clatsop is located on the exact site of the original fort, three miles east of U. S. Highway 101 between Astoria and Warrenton.

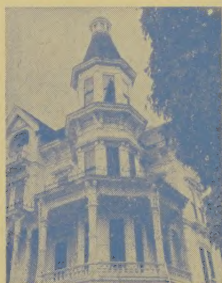
Fort Clatsop is now a National Memorial and is staffed by full time personnel of the National Park Service. Visitor center, museum and other facilities are completed on the 125 acre tract.

What To See in

FORT STEVENS—Built during the 1860's to guard the entrance to the Columbia River, the fort was abandoned after the Civil War until reactivated during the Spanish American War. The facility was enlarged during World War I and II. In June 1942 the fort was shelled by a Japanese submarine and is the only fortified spot in the Continental United States definitely known to have been shelled by a foreign power since the War of 1812. The fort was deactivated after World War II. Today Fort Stevens State Park utilizes many acres formerly comprising the military post. Concrete gun emplacements, exemplifying artillery types of the 1900's still stand. A road leads through the park and the old military reservation to the south jetty at the mouth of the Columbia River where the scenery and surf fishing are a tourist attraction.

Fort Stevens State Park is the largest single state park in Oregon and provides more than 300 camp and trailer sites along with picnicking, swimming and boating facilities on Coffenbury Lake.

HISTORICAL MUSEUM—



A Victorian mansion, reminiscent of Astoria's early history, Flavel House, is now Clatsop County Historical Museum located on 8th St. between Duane and Exchange Streets. The museum displays an interesting collection of historical artifacts of the area.

COLUMBIA RIVER MARITIME MUSEUM 16th and Exchange Streets. Open daily. Much of the history of Astoria and the Columbia River had its beginning from the sea. Many interesting artifacts are on display.

MARITIME BASE—Home of hundreds of Reserve Fleet ships. Highway 30, two miles east of the City of Astoria.

VISITORS WELCOMED AT BUMBLE BEE—

The large canneries in Astoria extend an invitation to everyone to visit and to watch the preparation and canning of salmon and tuna. It's a real education and a thrill to see.



TAPIOLA PARK—Located on West Marine Drive in Astoria, Tapiola Park has an outdoor heated swimming pool and offers excellent picnic and playground facilities.

& Near Astoria

BRING YOUR GOLF CLUBS—

The area offers three excellent golfing facilities. Astoria Country Club, private club, members and guests welcome. Beautiful 18 hole layout, on U. S. 101, 10 miles south of Astoria. You can also play golf at the Gearhart Golf Course in Gearhart, 18 holes, and the Seaside Golf Course, Seaside, 9 holes. All courses are open the year around.



FIRSTS IN ASTORIA

1847—First U. S. postoffice west of the Rocky Mountains. Established in Astoria March 9. Postal rates were 40 cents a letter.

1849—First Customs District of Oregon created with port of entry at Astoria. The first Customs House was located in Upper Astoria.

1846—First Presbyterian Church on Pacific Coast. The Presbytery of Oregon formed November 19. Clatsop Plains Memorial Chapel is located 10 miles south of Astoria on Highway 101.

IMPORTANT DATES IN ASTORIA'S HISTORY

1792

Capt. Robert Gray sailed into the Columbia River on May 11, and named the great river after his ship, the "Columbia."

1803

President Thomas Jefferson commissioned Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to explore the Northwest Country.

1805 - 1806

Lewis and Clark reached the mouth of the Columbia River by overland route Nov. 11, 1805, built Fort Clatsop and spent the winter exploring the vicinity.

1811

The fur traders of the Pacific Fur Company, organized by John Jacob Astor, arrived by water and established Astoria.

1922

The Astoria fire occurred at 2:10 a.m. on December 8. Thirty-two blocks were destroyed. The loss was in excess of \$11,000,000. The peculiar nature of the city's construction (on pilings) before the fire left it in pitiable condition, with no streets penetrating the devastated areas where the ground level was nine feet below the bordering thoroughfares. Reconstruction was a tremendous task.

THE ASTORIA COLUMN

STORY

Towering above Astoria on a promontory that commands a panoramic vista of ocean, river and mountain, the Astoria Column, erected in 1926, commemorates the westward sweep of discovery and migration which brought settlement and civilization to the Sunset Empire.

All of the events which led to the establishment of American claims to the Northwest territory, and the ultimate winning of the west are colorfully emblazoned on the column which juts 125 feet into the sky. Inside of the towering tube are 166 steps of a circular stairway which leads to the top of the tower. On top is a platform which gives an encompassing view of the Columbia river bar, Youngs Bay, and the rivers in the surrounding countryside.

The column itself is patterned after the noted Trajan Column erected in Rome by Emperor Trajan in 114 A.D. It was designed by Electus Litchfield, New York architect, and the decorations on the shaft were completed by an Italian artist, A. Pusterla. Descendants of John Jacob Astor and the Great Northern railway are responsible for construction of the monument.

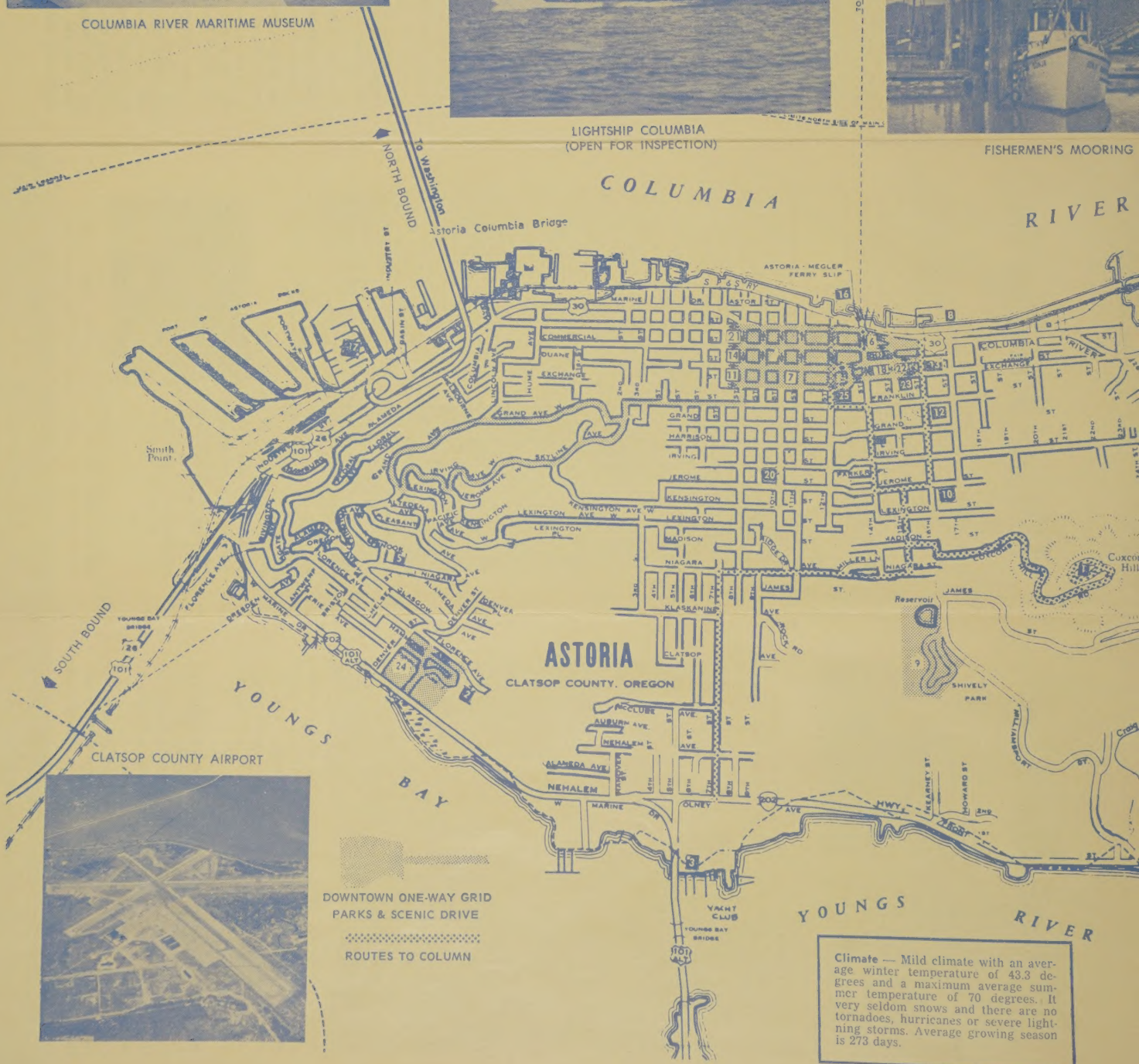
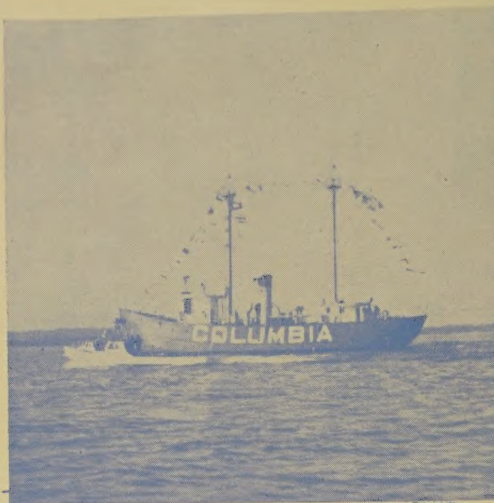
Depicted on the column in pictorial frieze are, from bottom to top: Before the white man the forest primeval; discovery of Columbia River by Capt. Robert Gray in ship Columbia, 1792; Lewis and Clark Expedition, first to cross the continent, arrived at mouth of Columbia 1805; Lewis and Clark Expedition builds Fort Clatsop and spends winter of 1805-1806 on Lewis and Clark River near Astoria; John Jacob Astor's Pacific Fur Company ship, Tonquin, sails from New York, 1810; Ship Tonquin arrives at Astoria in 1811, building Fort Astoria; Pacific Fur Company overland party arrives at Astoria 1812; Tonquin blown up at Vancouver Island, 1811; Fort Astoria sold to British and renamed Fort George, 1813; Fort Astoria restored to the United States, 1818; Coming of the settler and civilization.

The monument is situated atop Coxcomb hill in the center of an Astoria residential district. It is easily accessible on paved roads.

Maintenance work on the monument and grounds is continuous and is under the supervision of the city government. A light blazes from the tower nightly and serves almost as a beacon to those traveling toward Astoria by land, sea, river or air.

A Tourist Information Center, where complete information on the area's facilities is available, is maintained by the Astoria Chamber of Commerce at the Column from early June through Labor Day.

A full-time custodian resides atop the hill at the monument site and takes constant care of the grounds. Signs throughout the downtown area of Astoria direct traffic to the monument.



Climate — Mild climate with an average winter temperature of 43.3 degrees and a maximum average summer temperature of 70 degrees. It very seldom snows and there are no tornadoes, hurricanes or severe lightning storms. Average growing season is 273 days.



- 1 Astoria Column (Follow Red line)
- 2 Astoria High School
- 3 Astoria Yacht Club (Boat Launching Ramp)
- 4 Bumble Bee Sea Foods (Cannery Tour)
- 5 Captain Robert Gray School
- 6 Chamber of Commerce
- 7 City Hall and Library
- 8 Maritime Park
- 9 City Park
- 10 Clatsop College
- 11 Clatsop County Historical Museum
- 12 Columbia Hospital
- 13 Columbia River Maritime Museum and Armory
- 14 Clatsop County Court House
- 15 East Mooring Basin (Boat Launching Ramp)
- 16 Ferry Landing
- 17 Fishermen's Dock
- 18 Fort Astoria
- 19 John Jacob Astor School
- 20 Lewis and Clark School
- 21 Post Office
- 22 St. Mary Hospital
- 23 Site First Post Office West of Mississippi
- 24 Tapiola Park
- 25 Y. M. C. A.

Education Facilities — three elementary schools, junior high school, senior high school, a parochial school through high school and a community college.



CLATSOP COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Historic

Astoria

Oregon



The Famous Astoria Column

ASTORIA

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

270 Fourteenth St.

Astoria, Oregon

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WRITE

WHERE THE MIGHTY COLUMN